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Jamie & Justin Boling, Angie Grayson-Davis & Dan Davis, James & Christopher Eberhardt, Sandra & Tim Fitch, and Billie Hayman Miller & Rickey Miller Jr.

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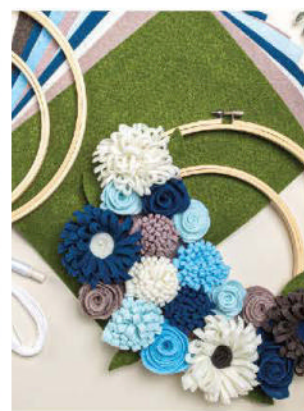
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RARING TO GO!

Country decorators . . . start your engines! Outdoor flea markets, craft fairs, and neighborhood rummage and garage sales are beginning to pop up now that warmer weather has arrived, and I am ready to venture out on the hunt for a fresh crop of collectibles.

Those who reside in milder regions have the good fortune of being able to attend open-air markets and sales year-round, but where I live in the Midwest we have a short shopping season. When I crave decorating inspiration during the colder months, I head out to the local curated home decor boutiques, but I will admit I tend to feel a touch of sensory overload by the time I am done. The hundred or so booths are all beautifully styled and teeming with the latest products and accessories, but these brick-and-mortar stores lack the personal, social experience that makes flea markets and antiques events so much fun to attend. The boutiques' booths are vendor-less, so there's no opportunity to chat with the merchants about their wares or share some friendly words as I peruse their spaces. I do, however, find these indoor markets to be great places to shop, especially when I'm looking for a special gift and have no clue what to buy. But for me, walking around the county fairgrounds on a sunny day and chatting with sellers about their merchandise and handmade crafts can't be beat.

This summer I am focusing on kitchen-related treasures to fill out the shelves of my baker's rack. I have owned the piece for several years and decided to move it to another side of the room, so it's only fitting that it gets a style update, too. My options are somewhat limited, though, because my cat uses the surface as a spot to spy on the birds—any new objects will have to be resistant to the swats of her wildly flicking tail. I'm ready for the challenge!



Win Down-Home Country Goods!

Welcome summertime with a host of new accessories that will make decorating and entertaining a breeze! *Country Sampler* is pleased to announce that we have partnered with Dutch Country General Store for this month's giveaway! One winner will receive a \$500 gift card to shop online for a choice of kitchen accessories, cookware, home decor, delicious food items and more. Turn to page 25 or visit www.countrysampler.com/promotions for details.



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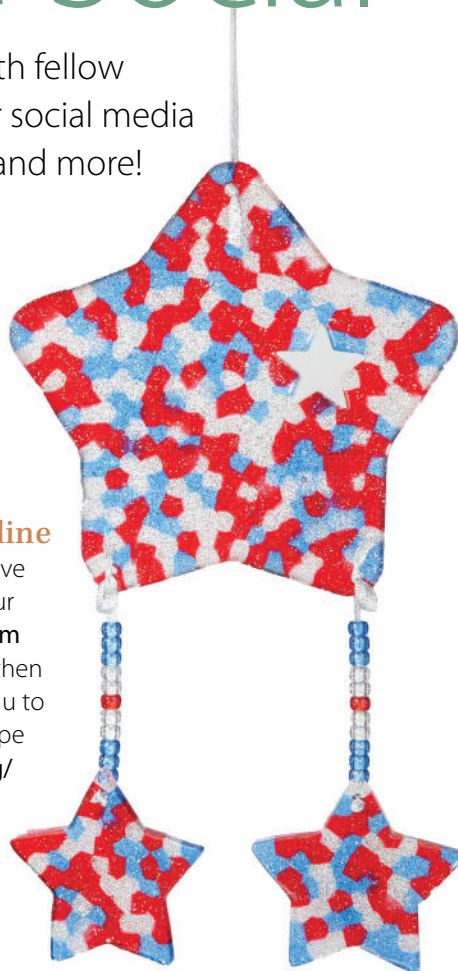
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Stock your kitchen with down-home classics, from cast-iron cookware to comfort foods, courtesy of *Country Sampler* and Dutch Country General Store. Enter today for your chance to win a \$500 shopping spree to Dutch Country General Store. See page 25 for details, or to enter online and for official rules, go to www.countrysampler.com/promotions. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

Nice Digs

Country Sampler fan Judi Magness Sides spotted a photo of a small greenhouse constructed with old windows, and her husband planned and handcrafted one for their garden. We'd love to see your outdoor decorations, too—share them at www.facebook.com/CountrySamplerMagazine.



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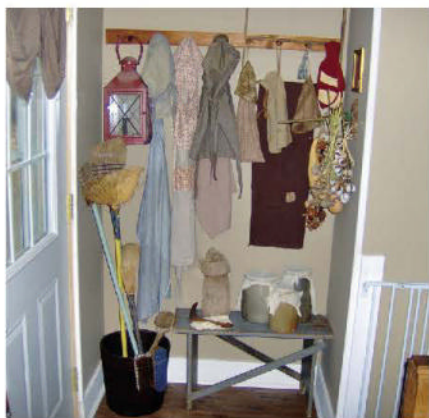


Boatload of Blooms

To repin this sweet spoon rack display, visit our Display Details board, www.pinterest.com/CountrySampler1/display-details. To see more photos of James and Khristopher Eberhardt's home, turn to "Made from Scratch" on pages 68–81.

Style Show-and-Tell

Bonnie Lucente was inspired by candleholders published in our July 2020 issue. "They had that rustic look that appeals to me," she shares. "I had the help of my husband who did the sawing and drilling, while I did the painting and distressing. It was a fun project that we enjoyed doing together." The candleholders appear seasonally at their Townsend, Massachusetts, home. "They adorn my dining room table all summer long and fit in with my patriotic touches," Bonnie says. The July 2020 issue, which features project instructions, is available at www.samplermagazines.com.



In an alcove off Rhonda and Rick Mayhew's kitchen, a grouping of homespun textiles gives the current-era space a look of the past. Aprons and bonnets hang from a country peg rail, accented with a large lantern. A petite bench boosts a trio of crocks, and Rhonda gathers brushes and brooms in a timeworn bucket nearby. The Mayhews embrace family heirlooms, primitive treasures and samplers—some of them handstitched by Rhonda.

In Streetsboro, Ohio, Amber Luchka dips into her collection of bud vases to develop a striking mantel display for the Fourth of July. "Milk glass is one of my favorites because it's easily found at your local thrift, affordable and can work with all seasons. Add a flower for spring, a flag for summer or even a candle for Christmas," she enthuses. Amber ripped fabric into strips and tied them onto jute string for a simple rag garland. "I love giving old things new life while creating unique style."



Reader Mail

I love your magazine and the ideas I get for my home. I like doing crafts, but I need the magazine to help me get started. I saw a picture of a porch fireplace and had to replicate it on my covered porch! When I bought this mantel, it arrived damaged. I built and distressed the vertical supports to match the top, and now I decorate the mantel every month according to the holiday/time of year. Thanks for the inspiration! I like the country-primitive look, and the porch now looks cozy and warm and inviting. I have subscribed to *Country Sampler* for about seven years, and I have every issue in my house stored away to go back to for new ideas. I adore *Country Sampler* and can't wait until it comes every other month!

Sharon Mehedin
Statesville, North Carolina



Reader-submitted content may be edited for length and clarity.

We love to hear from our readers

We might even publish your letter or photos in an upcoming issue!

Tell us how you live the country life or use *Country Sampler* as decorating inspiration by emailing your story (150 words or less) to editors@country_sampler.com.

Email photos of your Christmas vignettes to CountryPhotos@country_sampler.com. To be considered for publication, send high-resolution files (1 MB or larger, 300 dpi). People often ask if they can submit photos from their smartphones. Please do, as long as they meet our high-resolution guidelines. Please include a brief description (75 words or less) with your photos. By submitting letters and photos, you are granting Annie's Publishing/*Country Sampler* the right to publish the material in the magazine or on social media.

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Summer STATE OF MIND

Perk up your porches and living areas for the season by swapping in simple reinventions of thrift-store finds that usher in relaxation and patriotic enthusiasm.

The season of outdoor celebrations has finally arrived, and warmer temperatures and bright blue skies entice us to add a sense of playfulness to our decorating. *Country Sampler* stylist Carolynn Geesaman is more than ready. “If we are having a barbecue, I will hang banners off my porch railing, even if it’s just paper goods that I use for one day,” she relates. “It’s just so easy to be festive with things like that when you’re having a get-together.”

Not one to be wasteful, Carolynn insists indoor and outdoor groupings can be refreshed at very little expense. She is a lifelong rummage-sale aficionado and has developed radiant schemes with thrift-store and garage-sale diamonds in the rough. “You don’t have to go overboard,” she says. “It can be as simple as a trip to the dollar store or planning a craft hour. Hang a banner, create a couple of bows, get your flags out.” Let Carolynn’s ideas for repurposing common objects be your guide to amplify the energy in your spaces and convey your high spirits to guests this summer.

SPICE IT UP

Give a secondhand desk new life by painting it a lively color and showcasing summer symbols on its shelves. This make-do piece—a hutch top cleverly joined with a pressboard desk—originally was a dark brown-gray. “I think somebody tried to distress it with black paint. I could just envision it red,” Carolynn recalls. A basecoat of chalky-finish paint allowed her to skip the sanding step, and a latex topcoat provides a hint of sheen. The cabinet doors’ thick screens were in good condition, so Carolynn simply stapled them back in place after repainting the piece.

To style your own desk for the season, Carolynn recommends drawing from a primary palette and a few key collectibles. Here, an Ohio Art sand pail with colorful graphics mixes with the hues of the 1976 Kerr bell-shaped bicentennial jars lined up on a metal tray. Open a cabinet door wide to display a tea towel with rickrack trim layered with a lemon-motif banner. Expand the citrus theme with faux lemons and a lemonade sign on a riser and more fruit nestled into a topiary and flower arrangement. Tuck a postcard featuring a seashell design into a vintage typewriter, and dot starfish throughout the grouping to boost the beachy theme.







ADAPT RURAL ICONS

Delve into a rustic Americana look by including worn woods and salvage in a sitting area. To introduce summer style into this room, Carolynn combined soft blues with rich wood tones and weathered metals. Lean a wood framework like her rummage-sale find against the wall and fill its open interior with a windmill wall plaque. Wrap a beaded garland around an antique rope for some seasonal color. Stack small chests to point the way to a bespangled bouquet in the bed of a ceramic florist vase truck or toy pickup. (Turn to page 113 to see this arrangement up close.) For height, prop a tall fence panel displaying iron stars and a beaded wall hanging beside an upholstered chair. Carolynn positioned an antique barrel to serve as a side table and topped it with a scale lamp. To recreate the patriotic shade, embellish a neutral lampshade with woven ribbon and resin stars.

LOAD UP ON CHARM

Wheel a child-size vintage wagon into a refreshment station ideal for a fun-filled Fourth of July get-together. After spotting this wagon at a rummage sale, Carolyn immediately began imagining the decorating opportunities. She finished the formerly dull wagon with dark wax to give it a little life. She also reworked a thrift-store kimono to serve as a table covering. "I picked this one because I really liked the pattern on it," she explains.

Build an engaging food and drink buffet in your space, varying the levels of the snacks and drinks using a wagon, a picnic basket and cake stands. Dress up the wall behind the buffet by hanging star-shaped wicker baskets and swagging a pennant garland. To make a rosette like Carolyn's, cut three equal lengths of two types of ribbon and stack them on top of each other. Cut points into the ends and insert a brad in the center. Spread out the ribbons and then cover the brad with a white papier-mâché star.

Turn to page 12 to learn how to make this pennant garland.



SHOW YOUR COLORS

Add festive flair with a handcrafted banner—no sewing machine required! Cut burlap triangles and patterned cotton fabric circles for each pennant. Attach the circles to the burlap with spray adhesive. Fold the top edge of each burlap piece over a length of twine, securing with spray adhesive. Leave enough room in the pocket to move the pennants along the twine.



WISH UPON A STAR

Summon Uncle Sam nostalgia with a top-hat centerpiece bursting with firecrackers and national pride.

Materials and Tools

- Wood or resin dinner plate or charger
- Round cardboard or papier-mâché box, lid removed
- Blue chalky-finish paint and paintbrush
- Wide red-and-white fabric ribbon
- 3 wood die-cut stars
- 3 red buttons
- 3 toilet paper tubes
- Red and blue metallic card stock
- Narrow ribbons with printed stars
- 3 balloon weights with shiny foil star decorations
- 3 metallic star picks
- Artificial flowers in red, white and blue
- 3 plain florist picks or skewers
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Floral foam
- Spanish moss
- Sandpaper
- Scissors

Instructions

1. Assemble the hat. Position the box on the plate with the opening facing up and secure with hot glue. Apply blue paint to all the outside surfaces. Let dry. Glue wide ribbon around the box as a hatband. Lightly sand die-cut stars and glue buttons in the centers. Attach the stars to the ribbon with glue, holding in place until it sets.
2. Decorate the tubes. Trim card stock and narrow ribbon to wrap around the toilet paper tubes. Glue in place and let dry. Cut a cube of floral foam to slip inside the bottom of each tube, and glue in place.
3. Make the firecrackers. Snip the metal band that holds the metallic foil around the balloon weight's concrete base. Set the foil aside. Pull or cut the metal stem that holds the star decorations to remove it from the weight; discard the weight. Smooth out the foil and snip a small hole in its center with scissors. Feed the metal stem through the hole until the foil reaches the star decorations. Insert the metal stem into the top of a tube, pushing it into the foam at the bottom. Trim and fluff the foil as needed. Repeat to make two more firecrackers.
4. Finish the arrangement. Fill the box with floral foam and insert three plain picks of varying lengths into the foam to anchor the firecrackers. Push each firecracker onto the end of a pick. Trim artificial flowers to a length that will conceal the bottoms of the fireworks and push the stems into the foam. Cover the top of the foam with Spanish moss, and accent with star picks.





REACH INTO THE PAST

Bestow a corner with Americana and classic country details. Station a ladder to parade precious quilts and grain and flour sacks with appealing graphics that set the color scheme. Carolyn emphasized Independence Day with three vintage prints in matching barnwood frames that she found at a rummage sale. She aligned a ribbon tied with a bow behind the frames to visually connect the grouping. Adorned with a fabric bag that once held screws, a jelly cabinet offers decorating real estate for flag-trimmed stoneware and other objects, crowned by thrift-store signage and a patriotic print.



SIT A SPELL

Recline with a glass of lemonade and a book on a covered porch that looks as good as it feels. On a shelf positioned next to a comfy rocking chair, Carolyn gathered a color-coordinated thermos collection in a tray and continued the crimson hue via secondhand geranium art, potted flowers and signage. Scrap-fabric flag art complements the flowy star-embellished scarf and plush pillow. Carolyn converted a box-style wood sign into a serving tray to fit the wicker table by turning it over and screwing handles in place.

WAVE OLD GLORY

Fashion a flag-themed display with strips of fabric and a few other inexpensive materials. Follow the basic method behind this no-sew project, customizing the style to reflect your home's individuality.

Materials and Tools

- Picture frame with backing and glass removed
- Red, white and blue twisted cording
- White lacy fabric or old curtain panel
- Red cotton fabric
- Blue cotton fabric
- 3 white grapevine stars
- Jute twine
- Scissors
- Strong tape or hot glue gun and glue sticks



Instructions

1. Refinish your frame as desired. Carolynn's 26" x 21½" wood frame is painted red and distressed.
2. Cut 13 strips of red fabric and 13 strips of white fabric, varying the lengths for a homespun look. Carolynn's strips are about 1" to 2" wide and were all 12" long before she trimmed some of them.
3. Cut a blue fabric square for the canton and then cut slits along the top edge to create fringe. Carolynn's canton measures 8" x 8", with fringe strips that are about 2" long and 1" apart.
4. Knot one end of each red and white strip to a length of cording, alternating colors and making sure all the knots are tied the same way. Spread out the strips so they will fill the frame opening. Use the fringe on the blue square to knot it onto the cording. Tie the grapevine stars onto jute twine, drape it over the canton and tie it to the cording.
5. Swag the cording across the frame, securing the ends on the back with tape or glue.
6. Trim the fabric above the knots with scissors to neaten the arc, if needed. ★



FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.

Written by **ADRIENNE MCGEE STERRETT** ♦ Designed and Styled by **CAROLYNN GEESAMAN**

Photographed by **SCOTT CAMPBELL**



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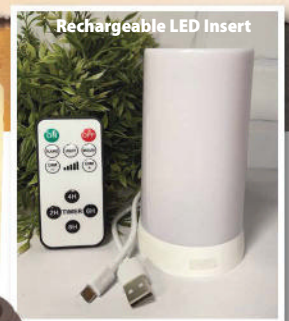
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Written by **KHRISTI ZIMMETH** ♦ Photographed and Styled by **GRIDLEY + GRAVES**



Familiar Surroundings

Meet a service-minded Missouri couple who design around treasured heirlooms, Americana picks and stylish storage to impart a pleasing sense of permanence to their dwelling, no matter how temporary.

“Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful,” advised 19th-century English designer William Morris. Although it’s a centuries-old philosophy, it is one that has served Jamie and Justin Boling well in a modern age of change. Several relocations have prompted the couple to put this sage school of thought into practice by developing a way to organize and decorate their home to accommodate Justin’s active military service.

Justin works in aviation in the U.S. Army, and the couple move every two or three years when he is reassigned. Originally from Warrensburg, Missouri, the pair grew up together and have lived in Virginia, Colorado, New York and their native state since marrying in 2010. Frequent moves mean Jamie has learned to streamline her style preferences and identify what she considers essential. “I have an inventory in my head each time we move,” she explains. “We only keep what is meaningful, what doubles as storage, and what we wouldn’t be able to find again.”

It’s a principle and a way of life that has resulted in a tidy home filled with possessions Jamie truly values. Among the pieces that make the cut is a beloved blue pie safe that has served as a pantry, blanket storehouse and bookshelf. Other multipurpose collectibles include crocks, baskets, buckets and wood bowls, all of which deliver practical storage.

Golden Years

Lighten up a dining area by doing without a heavy rug and leaving wood floors beautifully bare. Anchor the space with a table in an eye-catching color, such as the mustard hue Jamie Boling chose for a table she has "probably painted 10 times," she laughs. The thrifted table is teamed with Windsor chairs found by her mother-in-law and later aged with a paint treatment.





Jamie and Justin prefer to dress their front porch with heartfelt decorations, like the tricycle Jamie's dad gave her and she painted. "We always have a sign and a bench," she muses, noting that "the porch is a preview of what people will find inside."



"We only keep what is meaningful, what doubles as storage, and what we wouldn't be able to find again."

The Bolings bought their 2,800-square-foot house in Waynesville, Missouri, in 2019. "It was a great house, but every home has room for improvement and personal touches," Jamie observes. The industrious couple set to work on upgrading the abode, built in 2011, to reflect their tastes with an eye on resale. They replaced the flooring, staircase and light fixtures; installed new millwork around the windows; painted the kitchen and bathroom cabinets; and added a brick backsplash and farmhouse sink in the kitchen. Outdoors, the back deck and landscaping got a makeover as well. "The only things we didn't DIY were the floors and the deck," Jamie says with a laugh. "We're not afraid of tackling projects and making pieces."

Jamie, who sells handcrafted goods via The Primitive Merchant on Etsy, describes her overall approach as Early American. "We like a cozy, historical vibe in every room and enjoy being surrounded by pieces from the past. It just feels like home," she says.

And that aura is always her goal, wherever she finds herself living. The on-the-go couple recently moved again, but they took it in stride, knowing from experience that home isn't entirely based on location—it's an attitude.



A leggy cabinet purchased at a flea market in Colorado “four houses ago,” Jamie remembers, proves its worth as a repository for cookbooks and glassware, while the chest beneath offers storage for keepsake textiles. A trio of wood bowls atop the sideboard complements a russet rack filled with mashers and bowls in a range of wood tones. Patriotic bunting gives the scene an Americana punch.





Kitchen Confidential

Personalize your kitchen with tried-and-true tips from Jamie and Justin, who wield color and cherished collectibles to deliver dash without lots of cash.

✦ **True Blue:** An unexpected hue gives cabinets and the surrounding space a shot of low-cost, high-impact style. Jamie's chosen color complements the nearby wood finishes and primitive antiques. "I'm a sucker for blue," she admits.

✦ **Brick Trick:** Installing masonry facing as a backsplash warms up the walls with texture and character. If you're unsure about your abilities with mortar, consider brick-look panels or removable wallpaper.

✦ **Bin There, Done That:** Store fruits and vegetables in a painted countertop cubby that lends convenience and an old-fashioned look. Opt for a premade primitive-style bin, or refresh a secondhand wood organizer with paint.



A Frankoma pottery vase, passed down in Justin's family, is one of the relics the Bolings wouldn't dream of leaving behind. The rustic kitchen island was handmade by a friend for the couple's first house and has also become a "must move," given its functionality and convenient size. "People have asked if we'd leave it, but it has gone with us every time," Jamie reflects.



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Embracing simplicity, Jamie prefers large-scale collectibles for her living room. Sturdy stoneware and a substantial dough bowl anchor the pie safe on a wide section of wall. Long baskets and a garland made of tiny rag balls reach down to the furnishings below to connect the displays.

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PRIM & PRETTY

Bring a vaulted ceiling down to earth with a wide peg rack positioned at doorway height.





Clean-Lined Country

Moving frequently hasn't stopped the Bolings from putting down roots through carefully curated collections, a concept that enables them to make any new place quickly feel inviting. "We take home with us wherever we go," Jamie notes. She demonstrates her skill in their living room and details five of her tips.

- 1.** Choose white or cream for walls and upholstered furnishings to create a clean backdrop. "Whether we are renting or buying, our houses are typically neutral," Jamie relates.
- 2.** Embellish the wide expanses of subdued tones with bright accents. Jamie relies on her antiques and accessories to add both color and texture.
- 3.** Don't overstuff cabinets and shelves, Jamie advises. Visual space around objects keeps your favorite curios from being seen as clutter.
- 4.** Look for pieces that can double as storage containers, such as Jamie's precious pie safe or her blanket chest, which is useful as a coffee table but also retains its original function.
- 5.** Group similar items together within a display for more impact. Jamie's coverlets gain extra visual bulk when stacked on a shelf. The tower of painted chests next to the pie safe attracts attention while occupying a small footprint.

Lofty Hopes

Highlight a soaring but narrow wall with a superb cabinet, as Jamie did with a reproduction stepback cupboard in her living room. Position the furnishing off-center to better showcase folk art mounted beside it. Emphasize the height of the span with a tall pitcher of faux blooms and Americana accents.



Jamie's grandmother, who Jamie credits with her own love of antiquing, discovered an unusual door with deep meaning. It was originally in the ticketing area of the train station in her town of Holden, Missouri. "It gets toted around with us to every house," Jamie says, insisting it is one of her favorite decor fixtures. She pairs the door with a primitive desk to spotlight small collectibles that show love of country.



PRIM & PRETTY

Swap out standard artwork or shelving over a bed with a solitary vintage game board.

When they couldn't locate the Early American-style bed frame they had in mind, the couple constructed one. The traditional patterned coverlets, both on the bed and folded atop the painted bench, work together to instill a vision of the past. "I like things with different textures and pieces that have a story," Jamie conveys. "I think it brings warmth and visual interest to any space." ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.



To see more ideas,
follow Jamie on Instagram
[@early_american_dreaming](https://www.instagram.com/early_american_dreaming).

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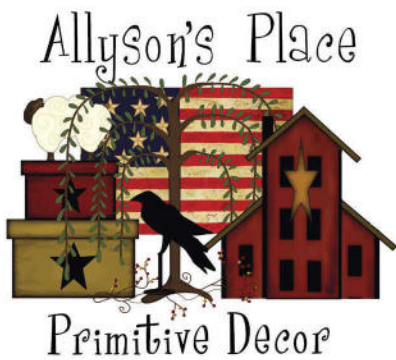


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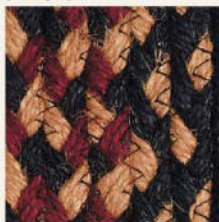
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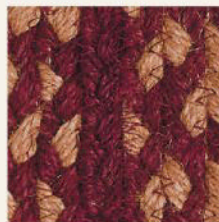
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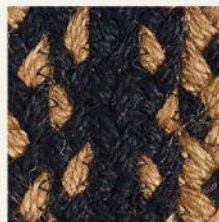
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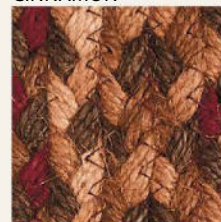
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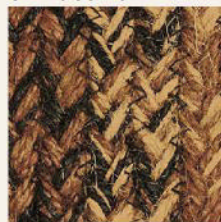
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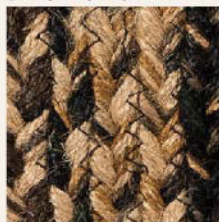
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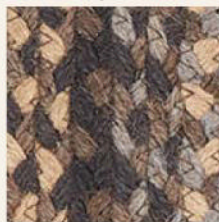
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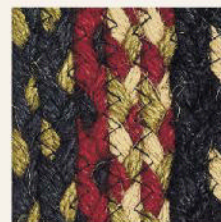
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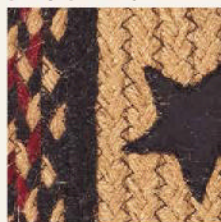
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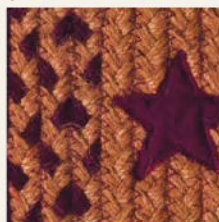
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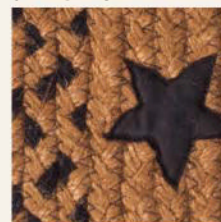
CINNAMON STAR



STAR WINE



STAR BLACK



Written and Styled by **DONNA PIZZI**
Photographed by **BLACKSTONEEDGE.COM**



Learn from a longtime antiques dealer in Washington state who uses handcrafted details, color-drenched collections and finely curated vignettes to bring a nondescript ranch to life.



To turn a large space into a comforting one, Angie Grayson-Davis and Dan Davis worked together to finish a four-poster bed with a paint treatment for the master bedroom. "I love red in a bedroom," admits Angie, who generously dots crimson around the room. The bold hue coordinates the diverse textile patterns that dress both the main bed and the nearby salesman's sample. Angie then complements an outstanding 1876 wool sampler with warm yellows and rich wood furnishings.

f Angie Grayson-Davis and husband Dan Davis hadn't taken a peek at the expansive back garden of their Rochester, Washington, residence while house hunting in 2016, they might be living somewhere else today. The property as a whole held promise even though the structure itself was underwhelming, shrouded in dark paint and interiors—complete with a windowless family room. The backyard offered ample space for their wished-for repurposed garden features, their top priority, and the pair foresaw that the space within the house was suitable even though it needed a style refresh.

After coats of white paint inside and out, the house took on new form with Angie and Dan's shared sentimentality about growing up in rural areas and love of farm tools. The drab dwelling became the light-filled, color-kissed place they call home thanks to cosmetic updates and their cache of old-time treasures. Angie's passion for antiques and color, and the ability to turn farm-based utilitarian items into eye-catching displays, couple with Dan's penchant for painting and crafting furnishings to refine the property into a showplace.

When decorating, Angie aims to achieve contrast between worn objects and brightly hued collectibles. As the former owner of a shop called Coal Road Primitives, she reaches into her experience to develop a welcoming atmosphere. "I know some people believe everything primitive has to be dark and brown. I think people who lived 200 years ago appreciated as much color and light as possible," Angie relates. One of the first things the couple did was add a window to the family room that adjoins the kitchen. Not only did that enable them to view the garden they have been transforming into a place of beauty, but it allows sunlight into the retreat where they relax at the end of a busy day. By populating the family room with plenty of green cabinets and garden decor, they echo the outdoors.

The use of pigments continues through the other living areas, whether in heirloom furnishings, vintage textiles or thematic groupings reminiscent of the past. "Color, color, color. It's all about getting as much color as I can get! Mustard, yellow and red are our favorites," Angie says. "Usually, I go for things that make sense together, such as farm tools and aprons softened with a host of dried flowers."

Now, after working steadily toward the same goal, Dan and Angie can unwind and enjoy the fruits of their labor as they think back on their memories of country life and bring their version of it into being.



Dan created something special in the master bedroom by making use of aged wood with a glowing patina for a tongue-and-groove wall and a fireplace surround. "I wanted to do something fun and nice for Angie, since we both respect things from yesteryear," Dan notes. "So, even though I'd never built a fireplace before, I made a plywood foundation and built around it using old wood."

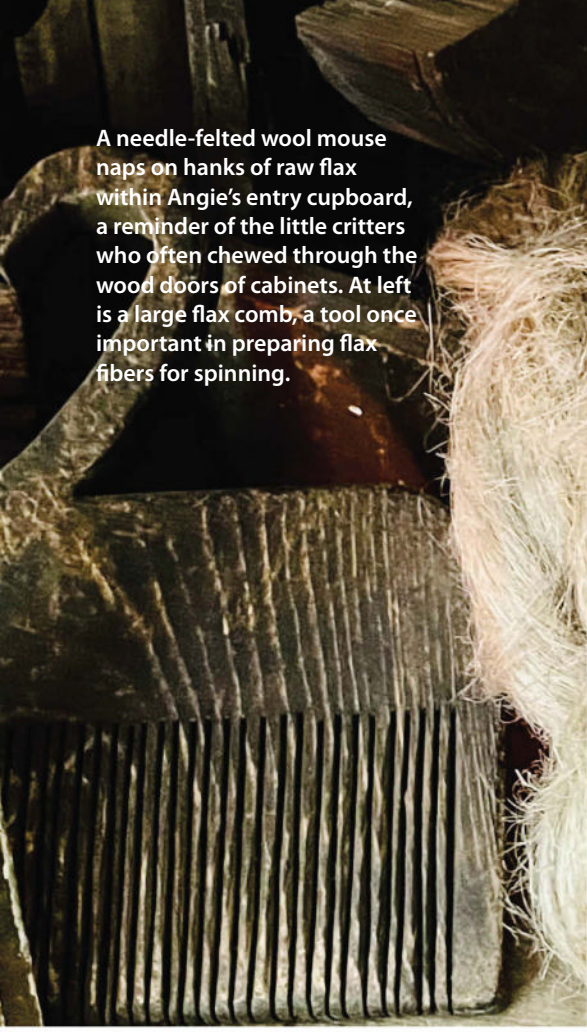


Weave
IT IN
Stack colorful quilts
to lighten a span of
darker woods.



See the gardens at Angie's home in the July 2022 issue,
available at www.samplermagazines.com.





A needle-felted wool mouse naps on hanks of raw flax within Angie's entry cupboard, a reminder of the little critters who often chewed through the wood doors of cabinets. At left is a large flax comb, a tool once important in preparing flax fibers for spinning.

LIVING HISTORY

Museum

This antique dry sink turned cupboard is dubbed "Angie's fiber corner" and has a very special purpose in their entry. The furnishing displays many of the tools necessary to turn flax into linen. Here are a few ways to compose a similar grouping:

- ✱ Open cupboard doors wide to hold quilts with bold graphics and a candle sconce.
- ✱ Show a specific processing step on each shelf. Angie's middle shelf is devoted to raw flax, and traditional homespun textiles fill the top shelf.
- ✱ Settle large tools, such as an old-fashioned yarn winder, a flax brake and a basket, in front of the cabinet.
- ✱ Emphasize a second fiber theme with a woven container of raw wool, sheep art and signage above.





"I love gardening and bringing the outside in, which is why I love so much green, especially during summer," Angie relates. To further enrich the family room, she hangs a chicken crate as a base for a themed vignette. A small wheelbarrow pairs with an ideally aged seed box to offer another nod to nature.

Angie's grandfather's handcrafted shelf tops this family room arrangement, infusing a neutral wall with personality. Baskets and a lantern suspended from Dan's homemade peg rail merge with collectibles stacked up on a side table. The trunk, a rare heritage piece, was filled with Angie's grandmother's family treasures that came across the country on a wagon. One of the old seed jars atop the vintage spice box still contained watermelon seeds, which Angie is tempted to plant.



PRETTY PRACTICALITY

Stash everyday supplies in a vintage cabinet to satisfy your decorating vision as well as save steps. Choose aged glass jars, stoneware crocks or wood boxes. Crown the cabinet with a rack of wood bowls to show off their rustic tones. Angie's dark gray cupboard is convenient to both her kitchen and laundry room, and she loads it with handmade soaps, clothespins and dried oranges.



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Weave
IT IN
Remove a cabinet door
to create a display
spot accented with a
homespun curtain.





COOKING UP CHARACTER

Boost country style in a modern kitchen with a series of creative solutions. Tuck a feed sack into the dishwasher door, drape textiles over a bulky countertop appliance and use a noodle board to obscure the stovetop. Dan handcrafted a shelf for over their window and secured it with corbels.

Angie's upbeat dining room decor centers on her mustard-colored pine table, which basks in sunshine streaming through a picture window that frames a view of the greenhouse. She groups objects that feature square, rectangular and round profiles to form an artful wall arrangement. Blues repeat from the table's spongeware vase to the hefty dough box to a lavender-filled bucket atop a pie cabinet.



Weave
IT IN
Spread out a coverlet instead of a rug in a low-traffic room.



HANG TIME!

Nothing says “country” like peg rails adorned with primitive goods. Angie and Dan enjoy creating racks and swapping out items seasonally. With their dining room display as an example, they share suggestions on how to make the most of these handy decorating tools.

1. DO IT YOURSELF.

Antique peg rails offer wonderful patina and authenticity, but don't limit yourself. Consider crafting a custom-fit rail instead. Dan often starts with a length of old wood, drills holes if they aren't already present, and fits in carefully trimmed chair spindles as pegs. The pegs can be arranged and rearranged infinitely.

2. VARY THE LOOK.

Intermix make-do or purchased peg rails of various lengths, finishes and wood tones. A primitive rail bearing distressed paint might look out of place in a setting that features traditional oak millwork with a Colonial flair, and vice versa. Decide if you relish contrast or if you would prefer the rail to match the wall color.

3. KEEP ON TOPIC.

Treat peg rails as canvases and decorate each one according to a room's function or a specific theme. Angie creates visual distinction in her dining room by linking objects associated with farm chores that feature opposing materials and textures: a soft homespun apron, rustic wood rakes, dried flowers and nubby corncobs.

It wasn't until Dan explored the angles of a horizontal wood beam and a blanket ladder that the visual drama in the living room began to take shape. Grounded by the antique hooked rug, the blue bench turned coffee table draws the eye up to the exquisite tone of a blue cabinet mounted on the wall. Old washboards increase texture on the high ledge.



"COLOR, COLOR, COLOR."

It's all about getting as much color as I can get!"



HINTS OF TINT

Harmonize antiques by grouping them by hue. Spotlight a yellowware collection in a painted cupboard, and bring in earthy russets via coverlets, boxes and a bench. Angie's apple-green cabinet in her dining room dates to the early 1800s and helps her realize her goal.

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Patriotic bunting borders the porch entry, highlighting the newly painted red door. The Universal water trough and the hay rake, rescued from Dan's late father's 40-acre farm, group together well with Angie's great-grandparents' old water heater turned planter to hint at the agrarian aesthetic within.

Dan and Angie are tireless gardeners, continually working in their back garden. Their greenhouse was made with old schoolhouse windows and lumber milled by Angie's grandfather. ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.



To see more ideas, follow
Angie on Instagram
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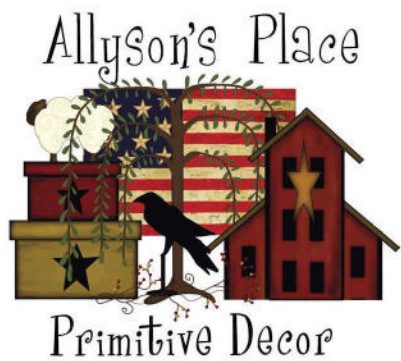
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Written by **CHERYL HACKETT**
Photographed and Styled by **GRIDLEY + GRAVES**

— AN — EARLY START

Experience a fresh take on country style in the Golden State as a talented homeowner finesses interiors with British antiques, French textiles and California flea-market finds.

Sandra and Tim Fitch showcase vintage landscape paintings on the wall behind the sofa in their family room. The pastoral scenes and an antique milking bench repurposed as a coffee table playfully recall Sandra's ranching heritage.





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Classic Swedish Interiors

Sandra Fitch loves adventures and antiques. As a child, she explored Los Angeles' secondhand shops with her mother, her imagination captivated by curiosities that had crisscrossed the country. At age 10, she purchased her first old-time piece, a primitive rope bed. As a high schooler, her vintage jewelry collection was all the rage. And at age 22, she put a pie safe on layaway. Youthful pursuits tend to wane over time, but Sandra's strong attachment to artifacts from yesteryear continues today. "When I go antiques shopping with my sisters and friends, we have a rule. Whoever touches it first gets it," she laughs.



Sandra is a talented DIYer and designs sophisticated spaces by rejuvenating old-world furniture with white paint, grain-sack pillows and linen upholstery. "For me, country style is about mixing primitives with French items. The combination just works," she says.

When Sandra married Tim Fitch 41 years ago, she graduated from treasure hunting to renovating homes in Southern California. "We like old and vintage. It's got to be old," she muses. In 1989, the Fitches relocated to Northern California and tasked their real estate agent with finding a Victorian where they could raise their son and two daughters. When the agent suggested a Craftsman-style house in Lodi, they reluctantly toured the fixer-upper. It didn't take long before the Fitches were sold on the home's gables, expansive porch, diamond-paned windows, hardwood flooring, coffered ceilings and built-in cabinetry.

Three decades later, the couple remain devotees of old homes. They have replaced the roof, updated electrical and plumbing systems, installed period lighting, refinished the floors and painted the exterior. When they found bygone windows in the basement, they returned them to their original locations in a bedroom and sunroom.

Over time, Sandra mastered upcycling furnishings and deepened her affinity for British wares and French textiles. Shopping flea markets helped her build collections of ironstone, Cornishware, grain sacks and toile fabrics. Even though Sandra adds to her decor

often, she does so with continuity in mind. "I love a lighter side to country. I paint my walls a white or pale color; that way, dark primitive furniture will really pop and show off," she explains.

Textiles may be the key to Sandra's look. "One of my favorite things to buy is vintage fabric. There is not much in excellent condition, so you just have to roll with it. It took five vintage monogrammed French sheets to make my queen-sized duvet cover," she admits. Not surprisingly, friends often seek her decorating advice. "Buy a sewing machine. Experiment. If you don't like the results, rip out the stitches and start over," she encourages.

Sandra is still on the lookout for age-old goods, a lifelong hobby, although her style has naturally evolved since her youth. A finely crafted skill has emerged: In her hands, objects become conversation pieces that lend comfort to each space. Today, the Fitch home is filled with an atmosphere of summery relaxation, with Tim often strumming his guitar, grandchildren running around the yard, and Sandra dreaming of quaint shops and new locales to explore.



SET A BENCHMARK

Show off several collections on a wall. Center an antique bench between a window and doorway and close the gap between the two with a large vintage sign. Flank the placard with objects that feature similar shapes and sizes, such as clockfaces, silhouettes, signs and framed artwork. Punctuate with items that share a hue. Sandra dots her family room with blue by way of a vintage pillow, a painted box and an enamelware pitcher atop a stool.



Sandra's European approach in the living room entails transforming drop cloths into elegant window treatments alongside timeworn French toile curtains, reimagining chairs with linen upholstery and setting a martin birdhouse on a column for a sculptural effect. A chippy plate rack nearly overflows with Italian and English pottery. "My majolica has a lot of texture designed to look like nature with gorgeous color," Sandra says.

Layering collections so they suggest still life paintings is a technique Sandra prefers. In the living room, she lets a tole tray serve as a base for a mirrored tray topped with French jewelry caskets. For natural texture and color, she fills stone vases and an urn with freshly cut summer flowers.





WONDERFULLY WORN

To create a calm environment in the living room, Sandra painted the walls pale gray and the woodwork crisp white. She pulls from her vintage textile inventory to sew pillows and upholster seating so the eclectic furnishings appear unified. “My decorating philosophy is don’t make everything matchy-matchy. Just make things work,” Sandra reveals. Try her ideas on developing a customized vibe in your space.

- 🌸 Anchor a seating area with a bold floral rug. Sandra selected a traditional mohair carpet in rose, gold, green and ivory.
- 🌸 Gather a leggy sofa and armchairs around the rug. Redefine dark seating with white slipcovers. “I always do my upholstered furniture and dining chairs in slipcovers made of either painter’s drop cloths or natural-colored

linen. I also love to use French sheets. This keeps the rooms looking fresh and light,” Sandra explains.

- 🌸 Add in decorative pillows that reflect the rug’s colors. Sandra fashions her pillows from aged textiles.
- 🌸 Reuse antiquated finds as tables. Sandra’s living room features a wicker end table and a painted bench on casters for a coffee table.



Sandra couldn't pass up the chance to buy this petite cupboard at a local antiques shop. She lined the shelves with vintage paper and arranged pottery and canisters in and around it, making the most of a narrow area in the kitchen. The industrial stool with weathered pink paint functions as a plant stand when her grandchildren are away.





— KITCHEN — KALEIDOSCOPE

Personalize your kitchen with pigment—but rather than flipping through paint swatches, consider Sandra's approach. Her walls, cabinetry, counters and appliances provide the backdrop for gems she's spent nearly a lifetime collecting. "Most of the color in my home is by way of my collections, from old signs to cheery pottery," she says. To imbue your kitchen with similar vibrant hues, take note of Sandra's six strategies.

1. Paint the ceiling, walls, cabinets and millwork a pristine white, and hang mostly white window treatments. Go further by choosing a white sink, appliances, countertops and backsplash. Contrast the monochromatic scheme with wood or laminate flooring in a warm tone.

2. Install a high shelf to show off colorful teapots, canisters and baskets. Arrange enamelware platters with coordinating fruit motifs above the shelf as wall art.

3. Remove doors from select upper cupboards to create a showcase for collectibles. Line the recess with white beadboard for a hint of texture. A niche in Sandra's kitchen holds blue-and-white striped Cornishware mugs, canisters and pitchers.

4. Mount a stained wood shelf to connect to the flooring. Group cherished items on the shelf as a continuation of a nearby display. "Sometimes you can have a few groupings in different rooms. When they are together, you can compare the little differences of what makes them the same yet different," Sandra reflects.

5. Introduce more color and pattern with old linens. Stitch vintage tea towels together to make a pretty sink skirt, and repeat bright hues with a floral table runner.

6. Position a vintage bistro set beside a window as a cozy breakfast nook. Paint and distress the metal to match a favorite collection.



The Gaffers & Sattler porcelain gas range from Tim's grandparents makes a statement in the charming kitchen, and Sandra enjoys using the iconic appliance to prepare meals. She distinguishes the wall space beside the brick chimney with primitive shelves brimming with European spice jars and canisters. An old Parisian street sign near the ceiling hints at her appreciation for all things French.

PITCHER PERFECT

Seek symmetry when displaying collectibles. French enamelware pitchers set atop a primitive cupboard form an artful arrangement in the sunroom. Sandra fills a shelf with china marked "Made in Occupied Japan." "It only takes three of something to make a collection," she says. "That's why grouping is important. The last time I looked, I have way more than three of anything I collect."



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Sandra settled on a pale paint hue in her dining room to allow her colorful treasures to have top billing. She placed the boldest colors in one area, on her green Swedish cabinet, as a focal point that reaches from floor to ceiling. A crystal chandelier is a glam counterpoint to the rustic table.

SET A MOOD

Develop a home's story by intermingling furniture styles. Reduce the formality of a built-in hutch by positioning a prim pie safe beside it. Display similar wares in both spaces to connect them, as Sandra did in her dining room. She balances the furnishings' visual weight by hanging a medicine cabinet and French street sign above the pie safe and architectural salvage above the built-in.



—FLOWER POWER—

Make a cheerful first impression with a vintage artwork gallery that follows the angles of a room. Collect paintings in a similar look to mount close together, as Sandra does in her front hall, which is abloom with pansy art.

Focus on one flower variety when grouping floral artwork.





ROMANTIC RETREAT

Ready to welcome serene style to your home this summer? Sandra's guest bedroom delivers decorating inspiration for recreating a French countryside aesthetic while catering to a visitor's needs.

-  **INVEST IN IRON.** Search antiques venues and online marketplaces for a metal bed. Remember that vintage headboards and footboards are often smaller than today's standards, so research bed conversion hardware that will allow the frame to support a modern mattress.
-  **CAST FAVORABLE LIGHT.** Install a distressed chandelier above the bed to provide ambience and a soft glow.
-  **EXPAND YOUR WARDROBE.** Outfit the room with an armoire where guests can unpack their suitcases. Stock it with fluffy bath towels, robes and extra blankets.
-  **TAKE A STAND.** Pick side tables with enough surface area to hold reading lamps, clocks and device chargers. Small dressers with multiple drawers will maximize storage.
-  **HAVE A SEAT.** Set up a small seating arrangement that serves as a spot for reading or enjoying a late-night snack or beverage.

The Fitches' Craftsman-style home was built in California's wine country in 1910. Sandra and Tim enhance the distinctive facade with a gray, white and blue scheme; striped fabric awnings; and vintage outdoor furnishings and accessories. "We use our porch throughout the year. We couldn't have a home without a porch," Sandra relates. ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.



To see more ideas,
follow Sandra on Instagram
@vintageticking.

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Written by **PAMELA DITTMER MCKUEN**
Photographed and Styled by **GRIDLEY + GRAVES**

Made ★ ★ ★ FROM ★ ★ ★ Scratch

Check in with an Arizona homeowner whose grandparents inspired his affinity for prim and pewter, in addition to family history, and imparted the skills to turn an ordinary suburban ranch into a tribute to his heritage.

Back when he was living in San Diego, James Eberhardt meticulously decorated in the primitive country style he favors. After he moved to Arizona to be closer to family, he sought to replicate the warm, nostalgic ambience that he had come to know and appreciate over the years.

The type of houses James and his husband, Khristopher Eberhardt, found in the Grand Canyon State left a lot to the imagination, however. Their stucco-clad ranch, built in 2013, is in a master-planned community in Goodyear, Arizona, where all the residences are similar and governed by the restrictions of a homeowners association. "I had to start from scratch," James recalls. "This was a spec home. It was a blank slate with white walls, a typical Arizona tract home."

Finding resources for country furnishings proved to be quite the undertaking. The look is not as popular in Arizona as in the eastern United States, so there are fewer antiques stores and vintage markets, and connecting with like-minded collectors is more difficult. "We're having to travel further and further to find stuff," says James, who often scours magazines and websites for ideas. "It takes patience and time."





James Eberhardt converted a blank wall in the living room into a grand feature by bringing in a fireplace and a cabinet of the same color and positioning them side by side for visual heft. He built the fireplace surround, inspired to include the recess in the upper piece after seeing it done in Arizona but with a Southwestern design.



James seamlessly weaves generations of family heirlooms and his own skillful DIY handiwork to transform a tract house into a personalized primitive paradise.

Even though the neighborhood requires uniform architecture and drought-tolerant landscaping with no grass, James finds subtle ways to assert his affinity for country style. The distressed barn stars, an Americana symbol of good luck since the 1700s, provide a solid clue, as does the weathered wagon anchoring a flower bed.

The primary decorator, James is sentimental about visits with his maternal grandparents most weekends when he was growing up. His grandmother appointed their house with Early American–style furnishings, and his grandfather taught him the art of woodworking. Together, they bestowed both influences and heirlooms that guide their grandson today. He began his own collections in the late 1980s.

When James can't locate a particular artifact or piece he wants, he figures out how to make it himself. He also covered walls in shiplap and replaced all the builder-grade millwork throughout. "James loves to work with wood and to smell the sawdust," Christopher notes. "It's an experience for him." James wholeheartedly agrees: "It's very relaxing and almost therapeutic for me. It brings me a lot of joy when I make something and being able to see the results."

Amid a custom color scheme best described as barn red, charcoal black and butter yellow, the Eberhardt property is a fusion of past and present, new and vintage. A few projects remain, like removing bedroom carpeting and replacing doors, but it's clear to see the duo began with a commonplace house and made it a distinctive country home.

Opposite: James' expansive display of pewter in the living room is both a statement-maker and a way to honor his grandparents. Decades ago, his grandfather made the hutch, which James painted charcoal and antiqued. He inherited some of the pewter from his grandmother and gathered more over years of searching. The methodical arrangement is pleasing, he says, because so many of the wares are identical. He scales the upper wall with waterfowl decoys and a trio of handstitched samplers.





Turn Contemporary ★ ★ ★ INTO ★ ★ ★ Country

The Eberhardts' dream house is a historic post-and-beam saltbox, common in New England states, but their Arizona choices were limited to stucco facades and Southwestern flourishes in conventional-looking subdivisions. How do you redo a ranch in the desert into a prim charmer? "I try to mimic a post-and-beam type look but accentuate some of the angles of the room," James explains. Explore some examples from his living room to help you begin:

Use What You Have. Cover a flooring style mismatch—like the white tile that's a desert mainstay because of its cooling properties—with an abundance of braided rugs. Cap window blinds with swags or gauzy cottage curtains.

Light the Way. Dot your room with tin lanterns or candle lamps, and consider replacing overhead fixtures with vintage or reproduction designs. The warm glow from a lamp can help set a vibe, especially when ceiling lights are not in use.

Work with Wood. Clad one or more walls in shiplap, choosing either premade sheets sold at home improvement stores or hand-cut boards like James did. Mount peg rails to host prim accessories, and swap out average trim for a more historical silhouette to outline doors, windows and ceilings.

Go Big and Bold. Draw attention to a handful of oversize pieces and organized collections. James strives for balance, hanging prim children's portraits over checked chairs topped with matching textiles. The cabinet in the corner draws attention thanks to brightly colored boxes, and a large rocking horse sweetens the scene.



Artist ★ ★ ★ IN ★ ★ ★ Residence

Paint paper boxes in historical colors to expand a grouping of wood pantry boxes.





★ ★ ★ Start a Conversation ★ ★ ★

You'll be sitting pretty when you arrange a cozy retreat within a larger room. James, who had originally placed a sofa in this footprint, veered in a different direction to establish a sunny relaxation spot that takes advantage of the twin windows in the living area. Try his easy three-step approach to setting up a similar nook in your own home.

1. Start with symmetry. Line up your basic building blocks—a side table and two Windsor chairs—in the center of the space. A braided rug defines the area and warms the tile. Dress the windows in matching swags and garlands to develop a continuous horizontal line.

2. Vamp up vertically. Decorate floor to ceiling with classic accoutrements such as a crock, wall sconces and baskets. James addresses awkward voids both high and low by stacking firkins beneath the table and placing books and kitchenware on shelving above the windows.

3. Capture the view. Invite the outdoors, just beyond the windows, into your alcove to add depth. James hung a large red barn star on the patio's privacy wall to pick up the hues of the interior millwork and textile accents. A wood arbor gives an extra point of interest.



In the front entryway, trimwork and shiplap wainscoting in barn red create a strong backdrop for a welcoming tableau. The curated arrangement is anchored by a flag-topped table and twin sconces bookending historic iterations of the American flag. Filling in the expanse are lighthearted folk art and charming animal figures.



**“It brings me
a lot of joy**
when I make something
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The dining area abounds with creativity and homespun touches. James constructed the handsome table and painted the quartet of comb-back chairs a deep charcoal to match. A simple swag curtain made with a swath of fabric and double-sided tape softens the horizontal lines of the blinds, a window treatment that appears throughout the house.





Pattern★Play

Mingle a multitude of prints for intriguing visual interest and to tone down modern features, like James did in the kitchen. Stick to a limited color palette, and choose small-scale motifs, such as speckled granite countertops, checked textiles and punched-tin designs. James' antique coffee grinder contributes extra old-fashioned character in this modern-era space.



The master bedroom takes on a cabin feeling with mustard-hued planks wrapping the walls and layers of Americana textiles dressing the pencil-post bed. The pie safe, an unconventional bedroom storage piece, is one of the first items James built as a teenager. The step stool holds special memories as well: James recalls his mother sitting on it to put on her shoes. The green base doesn't match the room's color palette, but James is leaving it that way. "It reminds me of her," he relates.





Artist ★★★★ IN ★★★★★ Residence

Paint a checkerboard pattern on scrap wood to pair with an antique backgammon board.

A high school trip to Washington, D.C., awoke James' deep patriotic spirit, which he expresses with year-round displays of flags and stars throughout the property. In the master bedroom, his love of country is unfurled in a stately tableau of flag artwork and Uncle Sam figures united with heirloom captain's chairs.



To see more ideas, follow James
on Instagram @blackcatinn.

Pick★a★Pigment

Instill a nostalgic mood with wood furnishings featuring complementary colors and grains. Place a leggy open cabinet as the focal point and surround it with an arc of small painted cabinets and framed folk art. James follows the Shaker tradition of hanging the ladder-back chair on the wall but at a lower height in the master bedroom. ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.



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A Gardener's

Set up a new or salvaged potting bench to assist with gardening chores but cultivate personality with the addition of flea-market finds and repurposed treasures.

Getaway

Gardening can be a relaxing and rewarding activity on a beautiful summer day, and when materials and tools are organized neatly in a dedicated spot, the task becomes less work and more play. A potting bench or table is a practical place to store frequently used supplies, but it can also give you a chance to let your decorating style shine.

Choose a covered outdoor area or outbuilding for your workspace and start with a rustic piece like this weather-beaten, character-rich workbench or a newly assembled potting station. Next, increase its storage potential with functional add-ons that keep garden gear efficiently sorted: hooks to hang a hose and tools, baskets to contain mulch and soil, jars to hold birdseed and clothespins, tins to corral seed packets and plant markers, and buckets to keep flower and plant cuttings fresh. And last, set a boot tray nearby to drain wet or muddy footwear, and add a stool for a quick perch while puttering at your bench.

Now that your potting bench is prepped, it's time to make the space uniquely yours by incorporating pretty decor high and low. First, lay down a patterned outdoor rug to brighten up the floor and hang an eye-catching feature (bonus points for something that's also functional) on the wall above the bench. We gave a rusty iron headboard new life as a memo board, using clothespins to attach seed packets, planting charts and reminders. Then find room for a few collectibles to offer country flavor. Timeworn license plates line the back of our bench top, while a grouping of old brass hose nozzles, a toy windmill and an antique lantern inject charm. A vintage scale is both useful and sculpturally interesting.



The Name Game

Create an erasable surface for labeling terra-cotta herb pots with chalkboard spray paint. Using painter's tape, mask off the bottom portion and the inside rim of each pot. Spray the outside rim with several light coats of paint until fully covered. Let dry completely. Rub chalk over the painted surface to season it, and then erase. Plant herbs in the containers and then write the name of the plant on the rim with chalk.



Tools of the Trade

Repurpose an old garden rake head as a combination soap dish and tool holder. Hang it from a nail or a screw on the side of your bench and add gear to the tines. Place a bar of shea butter-infused soap on the rake to soften rough hands.

High and Dry

To keep a pair of wet or muddy garden shoes off the rug, fashion an improvised boot tray from a kitchen cooling rack set into a rimmed baking sheet. The cooling rack allows the footwear to dry, while the tray catches the muck and moisture below.



Indoors Out

Bring sensible goods from your kitchen pantry to your potting bench. For example, vintage canning jars with zinc lids make attractive and airtight containers on our bench's upper shelf. The jars come in handy for holding birdseed, small implements, flower-arranging supplies, and soil additives such as bonemeal or soluble plant food. We propped up an old artist's palette behind the clear jars for a jolt of pure color.





One Neat Seat

We created a second storage tier on the lower shelf with an old child-size metal motel chair. Any small container or box—an old wood beverage crate turned on its side, for example—can be adapted to provide multiple levels for stashing supplies. Keep often-used hand tools and gardening gloves gathered for pick-up-and-go convenience in a produce basket. Leave fertilizers in their original packaging for safety, or label them appropriately if dispensing into decorative canisters.



Packet Protector

Seeds are meant for scattering over the soil, not across your potting bench, so consider transforming a plain tin box into convenient storage for seed packets and plant markers. A few sheets of scrapbook paper and card stock, a seed packet and some everyday supplies are all that's needed to craft this handy helper. For our project, we chose scrapbook paper and card stock in hues that contrast each other yet coordinate with the seed packet's colors.

Remove the lid from the tin and measure the top surface. Cut a piece of scrapbook paper 1" smaller than the lid on all sides. Cut a piece of card stock ¼" smaller than the scrapbook paper on all sides. Using decoupage medium and a foam brush, adhere the card stock to the scrapbook paper and the scrapbook paper to the tin. Run an old credit card or small piece of cardboard over the papers to remove any air bubbles.

Photocopy an original vintage seed packet or print a similar design from a royalty-free image website and cut out with scissors. Glue the seed packet copy in the center of the card stock, remove air bubbles and let dry. Brush decoupage medium over the entire lid and let dry. Apply a second coat as a sealer and let dry.



Colorful Clippings

If you have a cutting garden or a number of flowering plants in your yard, buckets and watering cans are a necessity. Vintage versions made from galvanized metal develop a beautiful patina over the years. Unlike most gardening tools, the more you use them, the better they look. Flowers like roses, hydrangea, stock and African daisies will stay fresh longer when cut in the early morning. Keep buckets of different dimensions on hand for longer- or shorter-stemmed flowers.

Chained Melody

Set a musical tone with a wind chime made from old metal utensils and serving containers.

Materials and Tools

- Drill and drill bits
- Small pie pan
- Needle-nose pliers
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Light chain
- Four hex nuts
- Two threaded eye hooks
- Small silver-plate footed bowl
- Hacksaw or oscillating multi-tool with cutting blade attachment
- Four silver-plate or stainless-steel forks
- One silver-plate or stainless-steel soup spoon
- String or monofilament

Instructions

1. Drill holes with a small bit through the pie pan's rim at four equidistant points. With needle-nose pliers, open both ends of four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to $2\frac{3}{4}$ " lengths of chain. Slide the end link of one chain through one of the holes in the pan rim. Close the link with pliers. Repeat for the other three chains.
2. Drill a hole with a larger bit through the center of the pan bottom. Drill a small hole through the thread at the bottom of one eye hook. Screw a hex nut onto the eye hook, all the way to the top. Push the thread of the hook through the bottom of the overturned pan. Screw on another hex nut from the bottom to hold the pan tightly in place. Open the end link of a 6" length of chain with pliers and slide it through the hole drilled in the thread. Close the link with pliers.
3. Drill a hole with the larger bit through the center of the footed bowl's base. With the hacksaw or multi-tool, cut off the hook end of the second eye hook. Drill a small hole through each end of the remaining threaded piece. Screw a hex nut onto one end just below the drilled hole. Insert the thread through the base of the overturned bowl and secure with a second hex nut screwed tightly against the inside of the bowl. Open the end link of the 6" chain and slide it through the end of the threaded piece that's protruding from the base. Close the link with pliers. Open the end link of a 4" length of chain and slide it through the hole in the threaded piece that's on the inside of the bowl. Close with pliers.
4. With the small bit, drill holes in the handle ends of your forks and spoon. Open the end links of the four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to $2\frac{3}{4}$ " chains and slide through the holes in the fork handles. Close with pliers. Open the end link of the 4" chain and slide through the hole in the spoon. Close with pliers.
5. Tie a piece of string or monofilament through the eye hook at the top and hang the chime outdoors where it can catch a breeze and make its music.





Soil Minus the Toil

Keep soil mixes easily accessible when filling planter pots. Line a vintage bushel basket with a plastic trash bag and fold down the edges of the bag. Fill the bag with potting mix and add a useful galvanized-metal scoop. It's so much easier to take soil from a wide-mouth basket than to pour or scoop from a bag. When you're finished, pull the sides of the trash bag up and secure with a twist tie so the mix stays neat and dry. ★

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Written by **REBECCA RAZO** ♦ Photographed and Styled by **GRIDLEY + GRAVES**

A Heart IN Full Bloom

Take in the imaginative decorating notions of a Louisiana pair who adorn their garden with whimsical yard art, architectural salvage and discarded junk made beautiful to tell a carefree narrative.





Billie Hayman Miller's landscaping looks meticulously thought out, but she actually prefers a more fluid style. "I always wanted to plan a garden, but that's not who I am," she admits. "I'm always changing things out and mixing it up." Billie incorporates vintage birdhouses, concrete birdbaths, wire baskets, wood fencing and statuary into her designs for texture and interest. A canopy of globe lights delivers continuity between the gardens, the barn, the she shed and the residence, making the transition from indoors to outdoors seamless.



For Billie Hayman Miller, the 7-acre grounds surrounding her Greensburg, Louisiana, home represent love, commitment and the start of a new chapter in life. The care poured into it can be felt by visitors, making it a popular attraction. “We’ve had some big weddings here,” says Billie, who used to rent the space to garden clubs and for social events. Billie’s property, which features a barn, a she shed and myriad areas in which to gather and entertain, is much more than just a well-landscaped yard.

The collage of vibrant hues and sweet fragrances intermingled with birdbaths, fountains and whimsical yard art is a deeply special place to Billie and her husband, Rickey Miller Jr., as it represents healing and fresh beginnings. “Rickey and I both lost our spouses within months of each other,” Billie explains. Over time, Billie’s home and its environment became the haven that nurtured the couple’s budding relationship. “People love our story. We like to share that love with others,” she notes.

Spirited and teeming with a variety of plants, flowers, trees and shrubs, the “flea-market garden” is where the couple spend most of their time. “The grounds are more important to me than inside the house,” Billie conveys. “I’m an outdoor person.” Fortunately, the Southern climate allows for a nearly year-round outdoor lifestyle. But because the weather can be rather unforgiving in the summer months, Billie prefers an easygoing style consisting of discarded items and “junk.” “Nothing lasts in the heat, so I just repurpose things,” she says. Billie loves a tranquil yet lively vibe, and her rustic birdhouses, architectural salvage, secondhand finds—and one googly-eyed frog decoration—indicate that she doesn’t take it too seriously. She shares her joy on her Over the Rainbow Gardens accounts on Facebook and Instagram.

When they are in the mood for an afternoon snooze, Billie and Rickey escape to the she shed, which is equipped with a daybed and mini fridge. Billie reveres her times of respite in this space, where she can pause to look out at her colorful garden and feel her heart blooming with gratitude.

A folksy angel slipped onto a post keeps watch over abundant hibiscus, while Billie’s favorite mimosa tree shows off its pink blooms. “These trees grow wild at the side of the road in the South,” she states. “They attract butterflies and have an almost tropical ‘in Florida’ kind of look. I always feel like I’m somewhere else when I look at that tree.”



Billie strives for casual, accessible, pretty—and amusing. A “tree frog” peeks out from a planter of clematis, while a sea of spider flowers waves around a picket fence displaying upside-down rubber boots. An antique dinner bell gets new life as a piece of garden art.



Go Low to Go High

Explore contrasts by planting short flowers around a vertical object like a tall birdhouse or windmill. Balance the hue and composition of flora and garden structures to move the eye through the bed. The hosta, zinnias and repurposed column play well together in a little patch beside Billie's barn.



Step Into an OASIS

Craft a cozy little nook for sipping morning coffee or dining al fresco. Billie's space not only complements her garden but also provides a designated refuge for a moment of R & R. She shares her thought process for developing your own outdoor focal point.

PLOT THE SPOT. Consider how you'll use the getaway before you settle on its location. Do you want it to be steps from your home for easy access, or would you prefer a quiet, remote niche? What times of day are you likely to be outdoors? Do you want to enjoy shade or dappled or direct sunlight?

CREATE AND FABRICATE.

Distinguish your alcove by incorporating a large-scale feature. Placing furniture near a sizable arbor or tree, or tucked against the side of the house, can add to the intimacy and privacy of the space.

BEGUILE THE STYLE. Select items that look unique, personal and inviting. Billie positioned a vintage door with rusty hardware inside an arbor to envelop her cottage garden. Loose bricks double as pavers upon which an old iron bistro table and chairs hold court—beckoning visitors to stay awhile.

PLANT TO ENCHANT.

Research your climate and try low-maintenance plants and flowers with delicate fragrances, such as jasmine, wisteria and eucalyptus, which instill a retreat-like ambience; for a country meadow effect, wildflowers are a good option.

Brush with GREATNESS

Stencil a meaningful phrase onto a vintage door.



Red Carpet

Lay simple brick paths that connect buildings to the surrounding grounds for humble, low-fuss points of access that help preserve and extend the life of grass and flowers. Paint storage sheds in dynamic hues that complement the colors of the garden and keep the outdoor spaces feeling bright and cheerful throughout the year, as Billie did with her she shed.



“I always wanted
to plan a
garden,

but that’s not who I am.
I’m always changing things
out and mixing it up.”



Billie swaths wood fencing with pigment to coordinate with structures in the garden. Multihued birdhouses and shutters add cheery bursts, matched with the whimsical energy of a painting she created to reflect the flower bed. A fountain featuring a restored antique water pump finds a partner in a rusty bed frame transformed into a signpost.



She-Shed Style File

Expand design real estate around a she shed with a covered porch that boasts grand views. Cushion vintage iron furniture like Billie's glider with a quilt or bedspread, complete with ruffle-edged pillows for lounging. Intersperse accents and furnishings in bold colors, from large-print floral textiles to striking Adirondack chairs. A decorative chandelier featuring aqua crystals dots the intersection of string lights, offering a dazzling touch.



Eager to reimagine old items, Billie lets her creativity flow by converting a vintage headboard into a make-do garden trellis that spans two containers. An oversize birdbath becomes a two-level planter showcasing a mound of feathery euphorbia and blooming purslane.



Brush with GREATNESS

Enliven a footed planter with a wash of sky-blue paint.

To set off a flower bed filled with yellow cannas, Billie layers metal yard art into a one-of-a-kind sculpture with a trellis holding a peacock and dragonfly combo. A nearby weather vane, painted to coordinate, introduces another appealing element. ★



See the interiors of Billie's home in the July 2022 issue, available at www.samplermagazines.com.



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Bask in the possibilities

The decorating potential of country baskets is abundant, so put your imagination to the test and dream up new ways to reinvent these charming containers to push them beyond their form and function.



A Serving of Style

If you would like to show off a sizable grouping of kitchen utensils without taking up valuable counter space, consider this idea from Linda Dresselhaus of Itsy Bits and Pieces. To recreate this display, brush a coat or two of gray paint wash over a narrow woven basket and let dry. Linda liked the original color of her \$1 thrift-store basket so she used only one coat of wash to let the golden tones peek through. Apply a light stencil and insert blocks of floral foam in the bottom of the basket to hold the utensils upright. As a finishing touch, Linda spread aged clothespins over the blocks to conceal them from view.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY LINDA DRESSELHAUS OF INSTAGRAM.COM/ITSYBITSANDPIECES

Pie Stand

Repurpose a sturdy basket with a wood lid as a delightful side table to add country character and smart storage to any space. Carlene Blair of Organized Clutter found a good-as-new pie basket at a resale store and reinvigorated it with chalky-finish paint and a French-inspired stencil. To attach the basket to the pedestal base, she set a square piece of plywood in the bottom of the basket and screwed the board into the pedestal top from inside the basket. This versatile table is the perfect place to serve drinks and snacks or stow magazines, books or crafting supplies.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY CARLENE BLAIR OF ORGANIZEDCLUTTER.NET





Trivet Pivot

Woven trivets are useful items in any home to help protect countertops and tables from being marked by cookware and serving dishes, but these practical household goods can be reinvented as intriguing wall decor in a snap. Sarah Ramberg of Sadie Seasongoods united natural-toned baskets and paper plate holders with boho-style trivets to create an artistic grouping that pops with multicolored pizzazz. Because the trivets are all lightweight, she simply hot glued them onto the baskets, tested the arrangement on the floor, and then hung each piece using self-adhesive wall hooks.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY SARAH RAMBERG OF SADIESEASONGOODS.COM

Bag in Bloom

Nothing beckons summer visitors like a quaint porch, and Pam Kessler of House of Hawthornes has found an inexpensive way to fashion an attention-getting decoration that embodies the sunny season. With just a few minutes of her time and some faux flower bundles, Pam upcycled a beribboned, clearance-sale Claire Murray tote into a vibrant accent for her front door. She spread out yellow gerbera daisy and dark coral rosebud bushes before inserting them into the bag, tied an old garden trowel onto the button closure with floral wire, and hot glued a zinnia seed packet to the back of the tool's handle. If you'd like to design your own version with a plain straw purse or tote, Pam suggests gluing a length of flower-patterned ribbon around the bottom.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY PAM KESSLER OF HOUSEOFHAWTHORNES.COM



design TIP

Set a block of floral foam in the bottom of a basket-style tote when adding both long and short flower stems.



design TIP

Instead of river rocks, consider a doubled-up bag of sand, gravel or a chunk of heavy wood.

Support System

Trade a pair of drab bookends for a sweet-looking alternative to organize your favorite reads. Sarah Ramberg turned old berry baskets into adorable fruit-themed bookends that bring a farmers-market vibe to her country home. Follow her step-by-step tutorial to craft your own set.

Materials and Tools

- 2 clean wood berry baskets
- Nonslip shelf liner
- Scissors
- Decoupage medium and paintbrush
- Fruit-print fabric of your choice
- River rocks
- 2 small sealable plastic bags
- Fiberfill
- Rubber bands

Instructions

1. Cut four small squares from the shelf liner. Turn one berry basket over and affix a piece of liner to each corner with decoupage medium. This keeps the basket from sliding while holding the books up.
2. To fill in the gaps in the basket, cut out four pieces of fabric sized to fit in each of the four inside corners. Turn the basket right side up and glue the fabric in place with decoupage medium.
3. Fill a plastic bag with a handful of river rocks and set it in the bottom of the basket.
4. Cut out a large square of fabric, roughly 2½ times the size of the basket.
5. With the unfinished side of the fabric facing up, place a handful or two of fiberfill in the middle of the square. Starting with two opposite corners, pull the fabric up toward the middle around the fiberfill. Repeat with the remaining opposite corners and pinch all four corners together. Wrap a rubber band around the gathered ends to close the pouch.
6. Flip the basket insert over and push it into the top of the basket. Dab some decoupage medium along the inside lip of the basket to secure the top in place.
7. Repeat the previous steps to create a second bookend and complete your set.



PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY SARAH RAMBERG OF SADIASEASONGOODS.COM

Precious Metals

Find common ground among an eclectic array of treasures to unify a cabinet scheme. Melanie Brunk settled on a lively ode to the outdoors by pairing up a favorite vintage collection with other nostalgic mementos. First, she established symmetry in her design with a linear arrangement of metal picnic baskets that boast vivid colors and eye-catching motifs. To ensure the containers remain the star attraction, Melanie filled in select gaps with compatible decor, such as thermoses, color-by-number landscape paintings, a model car and a stack of nature books, while leaving other areas open.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY
MELANIE BRUNK OF INSTAGRAM.
COM/BRUNKJUNK



Material Things

Corral a diverse group of smalls in a single basket, but choose a design with open sides to let their beauty project through. Diane Friedemann added plush miniature pillows to a trio of mason jars housed in a well-used wire egg basket to soften the solid surface of the glassware. The soothing blue hues featured in both sets of collectibles tie the pieces together as a cohesive unit. ★

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY DIANE FRIEDEMANN OF
INSTAGRAM.COM/DIANEFRIEDEMANN



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Reinvent commonplace picture frames to give them fresh, front-and-center purpose, and showcase the silhouettes of aged examples to boost the artistry of your displays.

Tell a Story

Draw attention to a tabletop or mantel arrangement with an empty frame as a border. Propped up behind a vignette, an intricate frame bearing worn paint can spotlight an oval frame featuring an old-fashioned portrait hung inside it. Avis E. Dobbs groups a vase, books and spindles as a symmetrical background to play up a favorite photograph of her and her late husband. "He was so fun and loved to shop for vintage treasure with me. I recently moved our framed photo right here, so when I come in my back door, there we are and it makes me smile!" she shares. The neutral shades of the frames, wall color and spindles allow the textures to shine.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY AVIS E. DOBBS OF
[INSTAGRAM.COM/AVIS.DOBBS](https://www.instagram.com/avis.dobbs)



Say It Loud and Clear

Spell out your feelings with accessories, as Courtney Vettel of The Vettel Farm does. Round frames are easy substitutes for the letter O, and spindles and millwork can be nailed or glued together to form the letter X—and a sentimental scheme is set. “Never stop searching for those hugs and kisses hiding among the vintage goodness!” Courtney relates.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED
BY COURTNEY VETTEL OF
THEVETTEL.FARM.COM





Keep in Line

Bring a bygone clothes hanger out of the closet and grant it a new role. This hanger was missing its crossbar, so Carlene Blair of Organized Clutter paired it with a frame to fashion a wall hanging. She searched her stash for a suitable size match and painted the 8" x 10" frame black to contrast with the hanger's wood tone. For your project, screw two eye hooks into the top of the frame and two more into the bottom edge of the hanger, taking care to align the hooks, and connect with twine. The finishing touch to Carlene's display featuring her father's confirmation photo is a metal tag holder, tacked in place to enclose the word "faith."

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY CARLENE BLAIR OF ORGANIZEDCLUTTER.NET

Compose with Contours

Supported by a mirror, a trio of elegant gold-toned frames lends depth to this vignette designed by Debra Hopkins Kolrud. She layered the empty frames to create a sense of movement with the interplay of their shapes. The burnished metallics offset the chippy and weathered whites of a distressed cake stand, ironstone pieces and architectural salvage.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY DEBRA HOPKINS KOLRUD
OF INSTAGRAM.COM/VINTAGECRUSHIN



Try It on for Size

Arrange wood rulers and measuring sticks on the diagonal within an old, ornate frame for a showstopping exhibit. Changing up her usual habit of tucking her collection into an ironstone vase “like they are flowers,” Avis E. Dobbs lays them out according to size so their nostalgic graphics can be read and enjoyed. One example from her time working at Artcraft Engraving Co. recalls memories. “That company closed years ago, but I have my ruler,” she remarks. In lieu of a frame, consider attaching rulers to a rustic board with shadow-box supplies or mounting putty.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY AVIS E. DOBBS OF INSTAGRAM.COM/
AVIS.DOBBS



Put a Cherry on Top

Nifty cooking gadgets can be fun “remember when” items, but they become amazing finds if the packaging or paperwork is intact. Eager to capitalize on her good luck, Frankie Hutchins framed the instructions for an aluminum cake decorating set and then secured the tool and its piping tips directly onto the wide frame. A stand mixer and traditional ingredients emphasize the grouping’s baking theme.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY
FRANKIE HUTCHINS OF INSTAGRAM.
COM/MYJUNKLIFE





Take Note

Why let paper ephemera languish in storage? Slipped into an oval frame, a handwritten payroll account from 1910 is appreciated as a thing of beauty by Lori Larreategui of Fairy Dust and Rust. The cities that are included with the names of some of the workers are special to her. "The penmanship, too, is just such a treasure from the past," she says. Accented by a timeworn clarinet and loving cup, the framed ledger invites a closer look.

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY LORI LARREATEGUI OF
FAIRYDUSTANDRUST.COM

Fit into Place

Enlist an outdated frame to help fill a current need, such as organizing a jewelry collection. Pam Kessler of House of Hawthornes created this earring holder using a thrifted 8" x 10" frame and a decorative aluminum sheet. Remove the glass and backing from your frame and paint it a vivid color. Trim a punched aluminum sheet to fit the frame, using the glass or backing as a template. Once the paint is dry, slide the metal sheet into the frame to test the size. Dot with glue to fasten in place and let dry. ★

PHOTOGRAPHED AND DESIGNED BY PAM KESSLER OF
HOUSEOFHAWTHORNES.COM



TRY IT!

Punch holes in a paper tag to hold post earrings, and hang the tag with a tiny hook or earring wire.

Shopping GUIDE

Browse the websites of these *Country Sampler* advertisers to find great country merchandise for your home.

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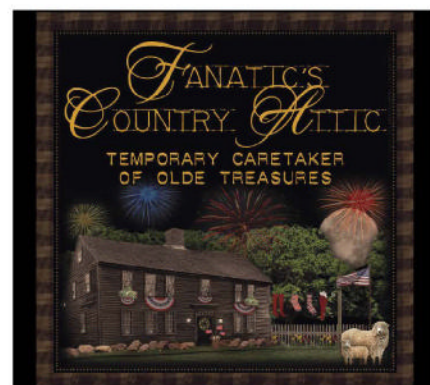
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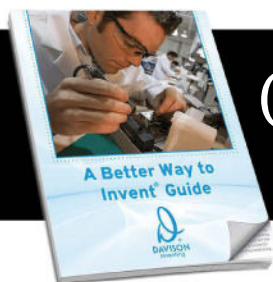
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Resource GUIDE

Country Sampler's Resource Guide includes all available information on the makers of paint, furniture, window treatments and flooring found throughout the magazine. Items pictured in individual stories but not listed in this Resource Guide are not available to the public. These items are either antique, one of a kind, discontinued or from private collections. *Country Sampler* has no information about them. **Please note that due to the complicated process involved in photography and four-color printing, the paint colors that are shown in the featured homes may not match the original manufacturer's paint swatch.**

Summer State of Mind

(pages 8–15)

Caliente paint on red desk, Benjamin Moore, 855-724-6802, www.benjaminmoore.com; *Flat Metallic Antique Nickel Universal Spray Paint on hinges of red desk and on star napkin rings displayed on buffet*, Rust-Oleum, 800-481-4785, www.rustoleum.com; *Broken Crackers quilt pattern in sitting area by Carolyn S. Vagts*, available in *Love Those Precuts* pattern book, Annie's Craft Store, 800-582-6643, www.anniescraftstore.com; *balloon weights in top-hat centerpiece*, Dollar Tree, 877-530-8733, www.dollartree.com.

Familiar Surroundings

(pages 18–30)

Produce bin in kitchen, peg rail in living room and various handmade primitives, Jamie Boling, The Primitive Merchant, www.etsy.com/shop/theprimitivemerchant; *pillows in dining area*, Piper Classics, www.piperclassics.com; *light fixture in dining area and Old Mill Brick Rushmore Brickwebb on backsplash in kitchen*, Lowe's, 800-445-6937, www.lowes.com; *pie safe and pineapple in living room*, Primitive Pig Folk Art, www.etsy.com/shop/primitivepigfolkart; *basket designs in living room*, Baskets By Gin, <https://basketsbygin.com>; see other products in ad on page 41; *blankets and pillows in living room*, Family Heirloom Weavers, 717-246-2431, www.familyheirloomweavers.com; *Kelly Clarkson Home sofa and chair in*

living room, Wayfair, www.wayfair.com; *Rogue Blue paint on cabinets in kitchen*, Valspar, 877-825-7727, www.valspar.com.

A Balance of Color

(pages 34–48)

Kindred Spirits sign in master bedroom, Bee Skep sign in kitchen, and Gather and Sunflowers signs in dining room, Clover Hill Cottage, <https://cloverhillcottage.bigcartel.com>; *hooked rugs in master bedroom and living room, blue pipe box in kitchen, coverlet on floor in dining room and yellowware bowls in living room*, Jack Kelly Antiques, www.facebook.com/jack.k.antics; *Wicklow Garnet window treatments in master bedroom, entry, family room and dining room*, Country Village Shoppe, 888-380-1799, www.countryvillageshoppe.com; see other products in ads on pages 16–17; *Bumble Bee candle in kitchen*, Gable House Goodies, www.gablehousegoodies.com; *bowl rack in family room*, Folk Art by Christine, www.etsy.com/shop/folkartbychristine; *tobacco-stick gate in living room*, The Clement House, clement311@msn.com; *Buttermilk, Lexington and Mustard paint on bed in master bedroom*, Old Fashioned Milk Paint Company, <https://oldfashionedmilkpaint.co.uk>; *Thickened Cream wall paint throughout home and Red My Mind paint on front door*, Behr, 800-854-0133, www.behr.com; *Alabaster paint on exterior and Tricorn Black paint on exterior trim*, Sherwin-Williams, 800-474-3794, www.sherwin-williams.com.

An Early Start

(pages 52–65)

Painter's drop cloths used for curtains in living room, The Home Depot, 800-466-3337, www.homedepot.com; *Coventry Gray paint on exterior, Oxford White paint on exterior trim and Jamestown Blue paint on porch floor and front door*, Benjamin Moore, 855-724-6802, www.benjaminmoore.com.

Made from Scratch

(pages 68–81)

Wagon in front of home, fabric for window swags in living and dining rooms, small decorative stars on chandelier in dining room and patriotic bunting in master bedroom, Hobby Lobby, 800-888-0321, www.hobbylobby.com; *oval braided rug with stars in living room*, Amazon, www.amazon.com; *rectangular braided rug in dining room*, At Home, www.athome.com; *standing star in entry*, The Brass Armadillo Antique Mall, 888-942-0030, www.brassarmadillo.com; *witch's hat pendant lights over island in kitchen*, Irvin's Tinware, 800-800-4846, www.irvins.com; *tin backsplash in kitchen*, Lowe's, 800-445-6937, www.lowes.com.

One Last Look

(page 113)

Vintage Ford Pickup Bouquet vase, Teleflora, 800-493-5610, www.teleflora.com. ★

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Just Truckin' Along

Country Sampler stylist Carolynn Geesaman converts a ceramic florist vase truck into a sparkling Americana centerpiece by filling the truck bed with floral foam and arranging artificial flower stems, shiny red berries and a trio of glittered star picks. To see more of her high-spirited patriotic decorating ideas, turn to "Summer State of Mind" beginning on page 8. ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE RESOURCE GUIDE, PAGE 112.



PHOTOGRAPHED BY SCOTT CAMPBELL/
DESIGNED AND STYLED BY
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